

D-775  
Harper's Regulation  
Rhodesdale vicinity  
c. 1870-80  
Private

This Rhodesdale vicinity farm is comprised of several tracts of land including Harper's Regulation, Thompson's Meadow, Ennall's Addition, Partnership, Hard Fortune, and Hoop Pole Thicket. The Harper's Regulation tract was part of a larger parcel of the same name conveyed to Alpheus N. Harper in 1924, land on which he and his family had resided as tenants for some year prior. The two-story, side hall/parlor plan frame farmhouse dates to the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century when the farm was held by George A. Thompson, Sr., who is designed as this location on the East New Market district of the 1877 atlas. He owned as well the older dwelling to the east built during the early nineteenth century (See Maple Grove Farm, D-774). The surviving architectural woodwork in the two-story, three-bay, single-pile main block is common to the post Civil War period with a turned newel post and turned balusters supporting a molded handrail. The house is joined on the site by a early twentieth century gambrel roofed barn.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of

### Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-775

#### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic Harper's Regulation

other Harper Farm

#### 2. Location

street and number 4705 East New Market-Rhodesdale Road not for publication

city, town Rhodesdale x vicinity

county Dorchester

#### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name James N. and Irene M. Harper, Jr.

street and number 4705 East New Market-Rhodesdale Road telephone 410-943-3998

city, town Rhodesdale state MD zip code 21659

#### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Dorchester County Clerk of Court liber 726 folio 413

city, town Cambridge tax map 34 tax parcel 30 tax ID number 02-022389

#### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- \_\_\_\_\_ Contributing Resource in National Register District
- \_\_\_\_\_ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District
- \_\_\_\_\_ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- \_\_\_\_\_ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register
- \_\_\_\_\_ Recorded by HABS/HAER
- \_\_\_\_\_ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT
- \_\_\_\_\_ Other:

#### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
_____ district	_____ public	_____ agriculture	Contributing
x building(s)	x private	_____ landscape	Noncontributing
_____ structure	_____ both	_____ commerce/trade	_____ 2
_____ site		_____ defense	_____
_____ object		x domestic	_____
		_____ education	_____
		_____ funerary	_____ 2
		_____ government	_____
		_____ health care	_____
		_____ industry	_____
		_____ recreation/culture	_____
		_____ religion	_____
		_____ social	_____
		_____ transportation	_____
		_____ work in progress	_____
		_____ unknown	_____
		_____ vacant/not in use	_____
		_____ other:	_____
			Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

## 7. Description

Inventory No. D-775

### Condition

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

### DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

The farm known as Harper's Regulation is located at 4705 East New Market-Rhodesdale Road  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile west of Rhodesdale, Dorchester County, Maryland. The two-story side hall/parlor plan frame house stands at the end of a farm lane along with an early twentieth century gambrel roofed barn. The house faces north with the principal gable roof oriented on an east/west axis. Built around 1870-80 the main, side hall/parlor frame structure is supported on a low brick and concrete block foundation and the exterior is clad with aluminum siding. The medium pitched gable roof, finished with extended eaves, is covered with asphalt shingles. Attached to the back of the main block is a two-story service wing erected around 1951. A later single-story gable roofed wing, built within the last ten years, is attached to the west gable end.

### COMPREHENSIVE DESCRIPTION

The two-story, three-bay side hall/parlor frame house that defines the Harper's Regulation farm stands at the end of a farm lane that intersects MD Route 14  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile west of Rhodesdale, Dorchester County, Maryland. The address for the farm is 4705 East New Market-Rhodesdale Road. Facing north, the two-story single-pile frame dwelling is covered with a gable roof that is oriented on an east/west axis. Supported on a brick and concrete block foundation, the exterior of the Victorian farmhouse is sheathed with vinyl siding, and the gable roof is trimmed with a boxed cornice and extended eaves. The roof is covered with asphalt shingles. Extending from the back of the main block is a two-story, two-bay service wing. Attached to the west gable end is a single-story gable roofed wing.

The north (main) elevation is a three-bay façade with a side entrance and adjacent one-over-one sash windows. The door is a replacement. Six-over-six sash windows survive on the second story, and a four-over-four sash window marks the west gable end below the extended eave.

The interior has been remodeled over the years, but the hall retains the original Victorian staircase which is distinguished by a boldly turned newel post, turned balusters and a molded handrail. The balance of the third quarter of the nineteenth century finishes have been removed from the first floor. The second floor was not surveyed.

Standing southeast of the house is a large gambrel roofed frame barn dating from the early twentieth century. The barn is sheathed with metal.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. D-775

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other: _____	

Specific dates

Architect/Builder

Construction dates

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register☐ Maryland Register☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

### SUMMARY SIGNIFICANCE

This Rhodesdale vicinity farm is comprised of several tracts of land including Harper's Regulation, Thompson's Meadow, Ennall's Addition, Partnership, Hard Fortune, and Hoop Pole Thicket. The Harper's Regulation tract was part of a larger parcel of the same name conveyed to Alpheus N. Harper in 1924,<sup>1</sup> land on which he and his family had resided as tenants for some years prior. The two-story, side hall/parlor plan frame house dates to the fourth quarter of the nineteenth century when the farm was held by George A. Thompson who is designed at this location on the East New Market district map printed in 1877.<sup>2</sup> He owned as well the older dwelling to the west that was built during the early nineteenth century. (See D-774, Maple Grove Farm) The surviving architectural woodwork in the two-story three-bay, single-pile main block is common to the post Civil War era with a turned newel post and turned balusters that support a molded handrail. The house is joined on the site with an early twentieth century gambrel roofed barn.

<sup>1</sup> Dorchester County Land Record, 14/482, 15 April 1924, Dorchester County Courthouse.

<sup>2</sup> John L. Graham, ed. *The 1877 Atlases and Other Early Maps of the Eastern Shore of Maryland*, Wicomico Bicentennial Committee, 1976.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. D-775

Name Harper's Regulation  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 1

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Harper's Regulation  
4705 East New Market-Rhodesdale Road  
Rhodesdale vicinity, Dorchester County, Maryland  
Chain of title

Map 34, Parcel 33

726/413

Harper Farms, Inc.

to

1.19.2001

J. N. Harper, Jr. Inc.

PLC 139/483

James N. Harper, Sr. and Edna L. Harper

to

9.3.1964

Harper Farms, Inc.

Parcel No. 3 All that tract or parcel of land situate, lying and Being in the East New Market Election District of said county and state and in the deed unto the said Alpheus N. Harper from Vernon A. Hitch et al. Trustees, dated 12.30.1937 and recorded among said land records in JFD 37/46; is more fully described as follows:

All that farm or tract of land, together with the buildings and improvements thereon, situated on the south side of the state road leading from Shiloh to Rhodesdale, in East New Market Election District, upon which Isaac Milligan resided at the date of said sale, it being the same farm or tract of land which was conveyed unto Joseph Franklin Milligan by Norman C. Melvin, et al by deed dated 3.3.1927 and recorded in JFD 19/575, in which said deed the said farm or tract of land is described as follows; All those tracts, parts of tracts, parcels of land, situate lying and being in East New Market Election District on the south side of the county road (now state road) leading

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## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

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Name Harper's Regulation  
Continuation Sheet

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from the village of East New Market to Crotcher's Ferry (now Brookview) adjoining the home farm of George Albert Thompson, and lying between the same and the farm of Francis E. Loomis (now owned by Otha McWilliams) called "Hughlett's Regulation or Harper's Regulation, containing 11 acres of land more or less; Thompson's Meadows, containing 100 acres; Ennall's Addition containing 19  $\frac{3}{4}$  acres; Partnership and Harper's Regulation containing 30 acres; Hard Fortune containing 16 acres; Hoop Pole Thicket containing 3 acres

RSM 63/499

Rose L. Harper, widow

to

8.21.1947

James N. Harper, Sr.

JFD 37/139

James N. Harper, Sr., Trustee

to

1.26.1938

Alpheus N. Harper and Rose L. Harper

JFD 37/46

Vernon A. Hitch, et al.

to

12.30.1937

Alpheus N. Harper

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Continuation Sheet

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JFD 19/575 Norman C. Melvin, et al.  
to  
3.3.1927 Joseph Franklin Milligan

JFD 14/482 L. Otis Corkran  
to  
4..15.1924 Alpheus N. Harper

JFD 14/477 Emerson C. Harrington, Trustee  
to  
4.14.1924 L. Otis Corkran

JFD 11/673 G. A. Thompson, Inc. Et al.  
to  
7.16.1922 Eastern Shore Trust Company

Thirteenth Item: All those tracts or parcels of land, situate lying



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Name Harper's Regulation  
Continuation Sheet

Number 8 Page 4

and being in East New Market Election District, which was conveyed unto Mitchell Thompson by James Thompson, by deed dated the 7<sup>th</sup> day of April, 1841, and recorded among land records in Liber ER 18/302, and being especially a part of the same land devised unto George A. Thompson, Sr. by Item 4 of the last will and testament of Mitchell Thompson, dated December 19, 1868, and recorded in said will records, EWL 1/483.

Dorchester County  
Will Book  
EWL 1/483

Last Will and Testament of Mitchell Thompson

to

12.19.1868  
Filed  
8.29.1870

G. A. Thompson, Sr.

I give and bequeath unto my son George A. Thompson, all the Land, real estate or farm on which I now live known by the name of Harper's Regulation, also a piece or parcel of land formerly belonging to John Muir, dec'd, which I purchased of Thomas J. Watkins, more explicitly named on the receipt of said Watkins, also a lot of timber land that I purchased of Eben Payne and wife, also a tract of land known as the Harper farm that I bought of Thomas Harper and wife



## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. D-775

Dorchester County Land Records, various volumes, Dorchester County Courthouse.

Interview with James N. Harper, Jr. and Irene M. Harper, 12.03.08.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property 1 acre

Acreage of historical setting 163 acres

Quadrangle name Rhodesdale, MD Quadrangle

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

The metes and bounds of this property are coincidental with the current boundary of the lot.

## 11. Form Prepared by

name/title	Paul B. Touart, Architectural Historian		
organization	Chesapeake Country Heritage & Preservation	date	12.03.08
street & number	P. O. Box 5	telephone	410-651-1094
city or town	Westover	state	Maryland 21871

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600



4269

4270

35'

4271

43

Shiloh  
Ch

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46

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4274

Mission  
Sch

Petersburg

Ennalis

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36

D-775, Harper's Regulation  
Rhodesdale, MD Quadrangle

M

EASTERN

38

BM  
41

Rhodesdale

7E.



D-795

HARPEN'S REGULATION

RITVEDS DALE VIC. DORCHESTER C. MD.

WORTHENST ELEVATION

11/08, PAUL TOWANT, PITTSBURGH

MD. / MD. HISTORICAL TRUST